

and "artistic skill" were manifested in inventing instruments of torture.¹ A case is given of extravagant cruelty and tyranny on the part of a man of rank towards a cook who had displeased him. It was impossible to obtain protection or redress. The standpoint of the age was that a man of rank must be allowed full discretion in dealing with a cook.² In many cases details were added to punishments, which were intended to reach the affections, mental states, faiths, etc., of the accused, and add mental agony to physical pain. "Use and wont" exercised their influence on people who saw or heard of these acts of the authorities until cruelties and horrors became commonplace and familiar, and the lust of cruelty was a characteristic of the age. 574. Prisons in England in the time of Queen Anne. The prisons of England, in Queen Anne's time, were sinks of misery, disease, cruelty, and extortion, from which debtors suffered most, on account of their poverty. Women contributed to the total loathsomeness and suffered from it. The Marshalsea prison was "an infected pest house all the year long." There were customs by which jailers and chaplains extorted fees from the miserable prisoners. In the country the prisons were worse than in London. Pictures are said to exist in which debtor prisoners are shown catching mice for food, dying of starvation and malaria, covered with boils and blains, assaulted by jailers, imprisoned in underground dungeons, living with hogs, with clogs on their legs, tortured with thumbscrews, etc. "Nobody ever seems to have bothered their heads about it. It was not their business/" In 1702 the House of Commons ordered a bill to be brought in

for regulating the king's bench and fleet prisons,
 "but nobody
 took sufficient interest in it, and it never became
 an act."³ If
 the grade and kind of humanity which the case
 required did not
 exist in the mores of the time, there would be no
 response. It
 was on the humanitarian wave of the latter half of
 the century
 that Howard succeeded in bringing about a
 reform. The prisons
 in the American colonies were of the same kind as
 those in the
 old country. The Tories, in the revolution, suffered
 most from

¹ Lecky, *Rationalism*, I, 332.
 448.

² Schultz, *Hof. Leben*, II,

⁸ Ashton, *Social Life in the Reign of Queen Anne*.